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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor V. GOUMENNY (Ukraine)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1996, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 35th and 37th meetings, on 2 and 6 December 1996. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/51/SR.35 and 37).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (A/51/519 and Corr.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/51/681).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/51/L.12

4. At the 37th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of Armenia introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina" (A/C.5/51/L.12), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.12 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1035 (1995) of 21 December 1995, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period of one year,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1066 (1996) of 15 July 1996, by which the Council authorized the United Nations military observers to continue to monitor the demilitarization of the Prevlaka peninsula,

Recalling further its decision 50/481 of 11 April 1996 and its resolution 50/241 of 7 June 1996 on the financing of the Mission,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decision regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

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[1] A/51/519 and Corr.1.

[2] A/51/681.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina as at 30 November 1996, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 13.7 million United States dollars, representing 12 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Mission to the period ending 20 December 1996, notes that some 27 per cent of the Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, who bear burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Expresses its appreciation to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full;

4. Urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

7. Decides to appropriate the amount of 75,619,800 dollars gross (72,225,600 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, inclusive of the amount of 1,918,300 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 75,619,800 dollars gross (72,225,600 dollars net) already appropriated for the period from 1 July to 31 December 1996 under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/24A;

8. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amount of 75,619,800 dollars gross (72,225,600 dollars net) already apportioned in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/241, to apportion the additional amount of 75,619,800 dollars gross (72,225,600 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997 among Member States at a monthly rate of 12,603,600 dollars gross (12,037,600 dollars net) in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995 and 50/224 of 11 April 1996 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993 and 50/451 B of 23 December 1995, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1997, as set out in its resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 and its decision 50/471 A of 23 December 1995,

subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 20 December 1996;

9. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 8 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 3,394,200 dollars approved for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997;

10. Invites voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

11. Decides to keep under review during its fifty-first session the agenda item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina".